

Message Text

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PAGE 01 RIYADH 00415 030547Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 COME-00 EB-08 OPIC-03 DOTE-00
TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 STR-07 /052 W
-----064809 030603Z /12

P R 311417Z MAY 78 ZFG
FM USLO RIYADH
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 505
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L RIYADH 415

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: BENC, ETRD, SA
SUBJECT: HEJAZ RAILWAY

REF (A) STATE 135214, (B) JIDDA 3966

1. ON MAY 30 USLO OFFICERS TALKED WITH DEPUTY MINISTER OF
COMMERCE YOSSUF HAMDAN AND RELAYED TO HIM DR. KHAYYAL'S
COMMENT THAT U.S. FIRMS SHOULD CONTACT THE MINISTRY OF
COMMERCE FOR WAIVER ON ANSWERING BOYCOTT QUESTIONS. WE ALSO

PASSED ON INFO THAT SYRIA AND JORDAN APPEARED TO HAVE NO
OBJECTION TO SUCH A WAIVER. WE NOTED THAT IN SOME
OTHER CASES OFFICIALS IN OTHER MINISTRIES HAVE INSISTED THAT
BOYCOTT QUESTIONS IN PREQUALIFICATION FORMS BE FILLED OUT.
HAMDAN SEEMED DISTURBED THAT ANY SAUDI MINISTRY WAS STILL
INVOLVED IN ASKING BOYCOTT QUESTIONS AND ASKED US TO SUPPLY
NAMES OF OFFICIALS WHEN PROBLEMS AROSE. HE GAVE THE CLEAR
IMPRESSION THAT HE WOULD FOLLOWUP WITH PHONE CALLS TO
THESE INDIVIDUALS, INCLUDING DR. MOHIEDDIN KHAYYAL.

2. HAMDAN ADDED THAT AMERICAN FIRMS CONFRONTED BY SUCH QUESTIONS
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ON PREQUALIFICATION FORMS WHOULD NOT ANSWER AND SHOULD
WRITE TO THE BOYCOTT OFFICE AT THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE
IF THERE WERE PROBLEMS. IN ANY EVENT HE DID NOT BELIEVE
THAT A FIRM WOULD LOOSE POINTS ON ITS PREQUALIFICATION
RATING FOR FAILURE TO COMPLETE THIS ONE QUESTION.
GNEHM

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 31 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation History:
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